

HISPANIC/LATINO ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
State Office of Ethnic Affairs – 324 South State St. Suite 500
Room 501
Thursday, January 18, 2007.
6:00-8:00 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT: Elena Bensor, Silvia Castro-Thomas, Nolberto Castro, Laura Garcia, Carl Hernandez, Sonia Parker, Jesse Soriano, Sally E. Valdez, and Juan Carlos Vázquez.

EXCUSED: Carmelo Aviles, Catalina Corwin, Bárbara Meléndez, Héctor Mendiola, and Gloria Norma Villar.

GUEST: Manuel Romero.

- I. **Welcome & Introductions:** Carl Hernandez began the meeting at 6:30 p.m. by welcoming everyone in attendance. This was a first meeting for two of the new members in the Hispanic/Latino Advisory Council; both new and old members of the council mentioned their occupation and said something else about themselves.
- II. **Approval of Minutes:** The November 16, 2006 minutes were not finished.
- III. **Guest:**
Manuel Romero
 - Manuel Romero - Community Relations Program Manager, Dept. of Human Services, (DHS) visited the council to address concerns that DHS has, of not meeting the needs of Utah's ethnic minority communities in relation to social services. Their goal is to hire more ethnic minorities, and solicit ethnic minorities to serve on boards and commissions. They are also seeking councils and community members to network this information to community members.
 - DHS is creating a standardized glossary of terms used in their office which will have a common translation for anyone seeking their services. The copy is in English to Spanish. This will also be used by staff for translating and interpreting and it will be provided in DHS website. The department will try to provide availability for this glossary by February 1, 2007.
 - Manuel gave a copy of the DHS Accomplishment Report which included how DHS can work with community awareness, Human Resources, staffing, and cultural responsiveness.
 - Manuel will prepare a Townhall Forum after legislature on April or May of 2007.
 - Manuel mentioned that DHS also wanted to install a cultural Diversity Establishment Cultural Competence Academy. DHS will start it but would like to bring it up to the Governor.

- Manuel mentioned that DHS is working on providing more job fairs for students to work at DHS and they have started at Weber State University and the U of U.

Action items:

- Laura Garcia provided Manuel the information of the council roster.

IV. Director's Report:

OEA Legislative Issues

- Jesse distributed to the council a list of the bills that the Office of Ethnic Affairs will be tracking

Public Policy on Legislation

- Jesse also handed out a Public Policy & Research Mailing List to offer the council an opportunity to receive and e-mail that provides updates on legislative issues that may impact the ethnic community.

Membership of Committee

- Jesse mentioned that the council still has positions vacant.

V. Chair's Report: Chair and Vice-Chair Discussion

Carl Hernandez

- Carl mentioned that there needs to be a website of how many openings are in different government boards. Andrea and Laura will provide the list to the council members.

Action Item:

- Andrea and Laura will provide the list to the council members.

Action Items:

- Carl asked Elena & Silvia to bring-up the important issues and create them and give them to Carl to have before the sub-committees meeting in a yahoo discussion which Elena will set-up.
- Carl requests each member to give 2 goals in general of the sub-committee in the yahoo discussion as well.
- Carl mentioned that the new members need to be given the bi-laws. Laura will send this out to the council members.
- Laura will send Elena an electronic copy of the council member's information.

Silvia Castro-Thomas

- Silvia mentioned it would be good to use yahoo groups. She does not know what the goals the Hispanic/Latino Advisory council will like to bring up to the sub-committees meetings. Through yahoo groups the council can post the issues that they like to target for this year.

VI. Other:

Action Items:

- Sally made the motion to make a friendly reminder to all council members according to the by-laws to enforce the attendance of the council. Sonia second. Motion carried. Effective on March, 2007.
- Sally motioned to meet every other month, unless under special circumstances and/or emergencies happen they will be ready to meet. Silvia second. Motion Carried.

Announcements:

- Elena invited the council to the Coalition for Multicultural Workers' Safety + Health Conference on January 25, 2007. This start at 12:00 p.m. and ends at 5:00 p.m.

VII. Adjourn: Sonia moved to adjourn. Sally second. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.